

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SECTO 04135 220002Z
ACTION NODS-00

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTO 04135

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH GROMYKO AFTERNOON APRIL 21:
NON-SALT SUBJECTS

1. GROMYKO AND I MET WITH FULL DELEGATIONS AT 6:30
FRIDAY EVENING FOR AN HOUR AND A HALF AND DEALT WITH A
NUMBER OF SUBJECTS.

2. ON THE MIDDLE EAST I DESCRIBED THE STALEMATED
SITUATION AND GAVE HIM A RUNDOWN OF OUR DIFFERENCES
WITH THE ISRAELIS OVER 242, THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION,
AND SETTLEMENTS. I ANSWERED HIS QUESTIONS ABOUT THE
CONTENT OF THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES, HOW WE SEE
THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE (I ANSWERED THAT WE WOULD LET
THE FERMENT IN ISRAEL CONTINUE FOR A FEW WEEKS), AND
WHAT FORUM WE HAVE IN MIND FOR AN EVENTUAL MEETING OF
ALL PARTIES (I SAID GENEVA VIA THE DECLARATION OF
PRINCIPLES). I INFORMED HIM ABOUT DAYAN'S UPCOMING
VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

3. IN HIS PRESENTATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST, GROMYKO
AGAIN REGISTERED A "SERIOUS COMPLAINT" AGAINST US FOR
VIOLATING THE OCTOBER JOINT STATEMENT, AND SAID THEY
WOULD IN THE FUTURE HAVE TO KEEP IN MIND OUR LACKADAISICAL
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ATTITUDE TOWARD SUCH DOCUMENTS. HE REPEATED THE FAMILIAR
LINE THAT FOLLOWING OUR JOINT STATEMENT THINGS HAD BEEN
MOVING FORWARD BUT WE FAILED TO PUT SUFFICIENT PRESSURE
ON ISRAELIS AND MEANWHILE EGYPT SABOTAGED EFFORT TO FORM
A PAN-ARAB DELEGATION. HE DWELT AT SOME LENGTH ON THE
PALESTINIAN SITUATION WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING NEW. I
TOOK ISSUE WITH HIS MORE EGREGIOUS MISREPRESENTATIONS.

RESPONDING TO GROMYKO'S COMPLAINT THAT WE NEVER SEEM TO HAVE TIME FOR A FULL DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST, I SAID I WOULD BE GLAD TO DO THIS WHEN HE IS IN THE U.S. FOR THE UN SSOD.

4. GROMYKO THEN TURNED TO MBFR, NOTING THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED THE NEW WESTERN PROPOSAL, ARE STUDYING IT AND WILL RESPOND IN DUE COURSE. HE SAID AT FIRST GLANCE THE PROPOSAL APPEARS TO BE "NOT DEVOID OF A ONE-SIDED APPROACH."

5. GROMYKO RAISED UN SSOD, HOPED BOTH WEST AND EAST WOULD APPROACH IT IN A BUSINESSLIKE WAY, SAID THEY ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO IT, AND HOPED THAT IT WOULD NOT "BELITTLE" HOLDING A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. I RESPONDED THAT WE REGARD THE SSOD AS VERY IMPORTANT AND HOPE SOMETHING POSITIVE AND CONCRETE WILL COME FROM IT. I NOTED THAT JIM LEONARD WOULD BE COMING TO DISCUSS IT WITH GROMYKO'S PEOPLE.

6. GROMYKO SAID THAT A MEETING HAD BEEN ARRANGED WITH BREZHNEV FOR SATURDAY AT 11 OR 12 A.M. VANCE SUBJECT TEL REISSUED FOR NODIS UPGRADING PER S/S, VALARGA

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